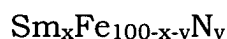


CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

1. (currently amended) A flaky, isotropic SmFeN powdery magnet material prepared by roll-quenching a molten alloy and nitriding the alloy powder thus obtained to form a magnet alloy; the magnet alloy having an alloy composition of the formula, by atomic %:



wherein  $7.1 \leq x \leq 12$  and  $0.5 \leq v \leq 20$ ; a TbCu<sub>7</sub> crystal structure; and flakes with a thickness of 10-40 $\mu\text{m}$ ,

wherein up to 30 at.% of Sm is substituted with a member selected from the group consisting of Ce and a rare earth metal other than Ce, and

wherein up to 35 at.% of Fe is substituted with Co.

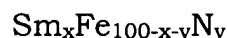
2-6. (canceled)

7. (previously presented) A powdery magnet material according to claim 1, wherein the average crystal grain size of the material is 10 nm to 0.5  $\mu\text{m}$ .

8. (canceled)

9. (withdrawn) A process for preparing a flaky, isotropic SmFeN powdery magnet material recited in claim 1; which comprises the steps of combining

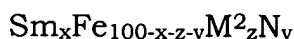
and melting alloy components to form an alloy composition of the formula, by atomic %:



wherein  $7.1 < x \leq 12$  and  $0.5 \leq v \leq 20$ ; and the crystal structure being TbCu<sub>7</sub> type; spilling the molten alloy on a quenching roll or rolls which rotate at a peripheral speed of 30-45 m/sec., annealing the flaky powder thus obtained in an and inert atmosphere at a temperature of 500-900°C; and then nitriding the annealed powder.

10. (canceled)

11. (withdrawn) A process for preparing a flaky, isotropic SmFeN powdery magnet material, which comprises the steps of combining the melting alloy components to form an alloy composition of the formula, by atomic %:



wherein M<sup>2</sup> is at least one member selected from the group consisting of Si, Nb, Ti, Ga, Al, Ta and C;  $7 \leq x \leq 12$ ,  $0.1 \leq z \leq 1.0$  and  $0.5 \leq v \leq 20$ ; the crystal structure being TbCu<sub>7</sub> type; spilling the molten alloy on a quenching roll or rolls which rotate at a peripheral speed of 20-45 m/sec., annealing the flaky

powder thus obtained in an inert atmosphere at a temperature of 500-900°C, and then nitriding the annealed powder.

12. (withdrawn) A process for preparing according to claim 9, wherein the roll-quenching is carried out in argon gas atmosphere of a pressure ranging from 0.0001 Torr to 2 atms.

13. (withdrawn) A process for preparing according to claim 9, wherein the roll-quenching is carried out using a quenching roll or rolls made of a metal selected from Cu, Cr-Cu alloy, or a Be-Cu alloy.

14. (previously presented) A bonded magnet made by processing the magnet powder according to claim 1 with a binder to the shape of a magnet.

15. (canceled)

16. (withdrawn) A process for preparing according to claim 11, wherein the roll-quenching is carried out in argon gas atmosphere of a pressure ranging from 0.0001 Torr to 2 atms.

17. (canceled)

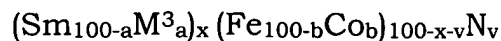
18. (withdrawn) A process for preparing according to claim 11, wherein the roll-quenching is carried out using a quenching roll or rolls made of a metal selected from Cu, Cr-Cu alloy or Be-Cu alloy.

19. (new) A powdery magnet material according to claim 1, wherein  $7.2 < x \leq 12$ .

20. (new) A powdery magnet material according to claim 1, wherein  $7.3 < x \leq 12$ .

21. (new) A powdery magnet material according to claim 1, wherein  $7.5 < x \leq 12$ .

22. (new) A flaky, isotropic SmFeN powdery magnet material prepared by roll-quenching a molten alloy and nitriding the alloy powder thus obtained to form a magnet alloy; the magnet alloy having an alloy composition of the formula, by atomic %:



wherein  $a \leq 30$ ,  $b \leq 30$ ,  $7.1 \leq x \leq 12$ , and  $0.5 \leq v \leq 20$ ; a TbCu<sub>7</sub> crystal structure; and flakes with a thickness of 10-40μm, and

wherein  $M^3$  is a member selected from the group consisting of Ce and a rare earth metal other than Ce.

23. (new) A powdery magnet material according to claim 22, wherein  $7.2 < x \leq 12$ .

24. (new) A powdery magnet material according to claim 22, wherein  $7.3 < x \leq 12$ .

25. (new) A powdery magnet material according to claim 22, wherein  $7.5 < x \leq 12$ .